

20070320.ba v04_n031.bam.20070320

>From ???@??? Tue Mar 20 11:45:06 2007 -0600
Date: Tue, 20 Mar 2007 17:44:05 GMT
From: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: BOATANCHORS digest 4031
Message-Id: <20070320174408.8AA96317EFD@srvr1.theporch.com>

BOATANCHORS Digest 4031

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) Re: PL-259 tip
by "David Stinson" <arc5@ix.netcom.com>
- 2) Re: PL-259 tip
by wb3fau@att.net
- 3) Re: PL-259 tip
by "Herbert M. Rosenthal" <herbrose@comcast.net>
- 4) Re: PL-259 tip
by "Al Parker" <anchor@ec.rr.com>
- 5) Re: PL-259 tip
by "Sandy W5TVW" <ebjr@i-55.com>
- 6) Re: PL-259 tip
by Dan Arney <hankarn@pacbell.net>
- 7) More PL-259 stuff
by "James C. Garland" <4cx250b@muohio.edu>
- 8) Re: More "N" stuff
by "Al Parker" <anchor@ec.rr.com>
- 9) Re: More "N" stuff
by wb3fau@att.net
- 10) N females v/s UHF females (SO-239's)
by "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>
- 11) Re: PL-259 tip
by "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>
- 12) Re: PL-259 tip
by "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>
- 13) Re: More PL-259 stuff
by "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>
- 14) WTB: pair of 75TH's & pair of ZB-120's
by John Poulton <jp@cs.unc.edu>
- 15) 37 tube for Philco
by "Tom Rauch" <w8ji@contesting.com>
- 16) Re: More "N" stuff
by "Tom Rauch" <w8ji@contesting.com>
- 17) Re: More PL-259 stuff
by spr@earthlink.net
- 18) those damn coax connectors

- by Bob Roehrig <broehrig@aurora.edu>
- 19) Those coax connectors
by "B. Smith" <smithab11@comcast.net>
- 20) Re: Those coax connectors
by Buzz <muttman@charter.net>
- 21) RF Condoms / was: PL-259 tip
by "Marty Reynolds' debris field" <polepeeg@aa4rm.ba-watch.org>
- 22) Re: Those coax connectors
by "Tom Rauch" <w8ji@contesting.com>
- 23) Bending Antennas
by Richard Dillman <ddillman@igc.org>

Message-ID: <001801c76a14\$22e56e60\$fa01fea9@Default>

From: "David Stinson" <arc5@ix.netcom.com>

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Subject: Re: PL-259 tip

Date: Mon, 19 Mar 2007 04:48:30 -0600

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

A tip for anyone using PL-259s at 400 MHZ:
the longer (3-4 inches; never measured one)
female-female "bullets" typically used thru-bulkhead
are dandy attenuators at 400 mhz. Had to change
quite a few of them out in commercial apps.
Don't know why; I ain't that smart. I just know it's so.
73 Dave S.

P.S. Put me down as a "fan" of the PL-259.
N's are such a pain in the neck, and the ones
you buy today are junk. The center pin breaks easily.

From: wb3fau@att.net

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Cc: "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>

Subject: Re: PL-259 tip

Date: Mon, 19 Mar 2007 12:54:52 +0000

Message-Id:

<031920071254.4449.45FE881C0006AF830000116121612436469A0E00CC0D99@att.net>

You need to talk to Mr Amphenol, Arden.

Message-ID: <45FE9716.3040708@comcast.net>

Date: Mon, 19 Mar 2007 06:58:46 -0700
From: "Herbert M. Rosenthal" <herbrose@comcast.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: PL-259 tip
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

More ideas for good connections:

1. Scrape across the 4 solder holes with a pocket knife down to the bare brass, and you can make a better connection than trying to solder to the plated metal (this sort of follows the chain saw file idea). Use only the white, TF connectors.

2. Most important: I use a 250 watt HEXACON iron with about a 1/4" wedge tip, well tinned. Use resin 60/40 solder (never mind OSHA) and no paste flux (no corrosion down the road). If you get the heat transfer done quickly, you rarely melt the plastic, and you get a nice, shiny solder connection on both the inner and outer connections.. A hot iron is usually the answer to good solder joints, wherever they may be.

3. Fill the male connector with silicon grease before you screw it into the socket on an external connection. When it is completely screwed on, wipe the excess off, and you have a good waterproof connection that will last for years; we did that in Anchorage on hundreds of Motorola 2 way mobiles, and I never saw moisture condense within a connector. Far better than black plastic tape to exclude moisture.

Herb W5AN
Albuquerque

Sandy W5TVW wrote:

> Haven't seen this mentioned. <snip> <snip> ...

Message-ID: <04a701c76a2f\$f12a5900\$3201a8c0@w8ut>
From: "Al Parker" <anchor@ec.rr.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: PL-259 tip
Date: Mon, 19 Mar 2007 10:07:33 -0400
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Tom, et al,

I agree completely. I always chuckle when this issue comes up, as it invariably does.

Now that it's been said, I think I'll just delete any more msgs on this all-too-long thread, there have been some good tips on their use come up, tho'.

73,

Al, W8UT,

New Bern, NC

www.boatanchors.org

www.hammarlund.info

----- Original Message -----

From: "Tom Rauch" <w8ji@contesting.com>

>

> What amazes me is we even hear the impedance argument when
> virtually 100% of the boatanchor or other HF equipment we
> use has inches of area that isn't close to 50 ohms at all,
> and the bump has no effect on anything.

>

> Does your HF rig quit working because it has a 5 inch long
> area between the tank and internal network that is 100-200
> ohms? Then why worry about a 1.4 :1 SWR that is confined to
> 1/2 inch?

>

Message-ID: <009b01c76a37\$ea743ba0\$5ea1cdd1@gateway>

From: "Sandy W5TVW" <ebj@i-55.com>

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Subject: Re: PL-259 tip

Date: Mon, 19 Mar 2007 10:04:37 -0500

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;

format=flowed;

charset="iso-8859-1";

reply-type=response

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Weatherproofing? I used one cure for this: Scotch #23 rubber splicing tape. Donno if they still make it. Scotch #130C linerless splicing tape OK too. It isn't really rubber, some kind of synthetic stuff. One should stretch it as you wind it around the connector to be waterproofed. Use at least 3 layers or more. It stretches quite thin and if you run out, it can be added to easily. The stuff "self vulcanizes" after a while and will completely resist entry of any liquids. The offshore oilfield guys used to use it on sub-sea stuff (under water) that needed protection. I used it for years on antenna tuner and satellite gear coax connectors that were subject to saltwater spray on board ocean going ships. If you must get a connector

loose, it's a matter of just cutting thru the mass and it comes off easily. Some people use "Scotch coat" for this but it's VERY messy to get loose if the need occurs.

Both tapes are "Self fusing Ethylene Propylene Polymer". The 130C tape is supposed to be good in environments up to 130 degrees Centigrade, hence the "type number".

73,

Sandy W5TVW

----- Original Message -----

From: "Tom Rauch" <w8ji@contesting.com>

To: "Old Tube Radios" <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Sent: Monday, March 19, 2007 5:29 AM

Subject: Re: PL-259 tip

>

>> 5 kV peak into 50 Ohm is 250 kW. I suppose that is wonderful in

>> the land of consummate consumerism where no ham bothers to keep

>> below 1 kW - that would be too wimpish.

>> For legal power in most world jurisdictions, 400 W to 1 kW is

>> enough. Then, a BNC or an N-type is more than sufficient.

>

> I think you missed the point.

>

> If there ever is a connector failure it is much more likely to be in a N
> than in the poor, misaligned UHF connector. I transmit on the wrong antenna,
> sometimes use a tuner in the shack to get on a band where I don't have an
> antenna, and lightning hits several times a year and my UHF connectors
> never blow out. On the other hand any N connectors in my cables connected
> to big antennas generally have a life of a few years.

>

> Once in a while someone whines about constant impedance, but they don't
> seem to think about what that actually means to the system. The tiny
> impedance bump in the connector doesn't make a bit of difference to anyone
> below 100 MHz. It doesn't even matter at 400MHz unless you have a group of
> bumps stacked or don't use hooded UHF females.

>

> The only real area of debate is the weatherproofing, but that is easily
> handled in any connector. So really, there is no reason at all to use an N
> connector unless we enjoy installing them, our rig already uses them, we
> get them for free, or we are emotionally attached to them. Any one of
> those reasons is fine, but let's just admit the real reason. It sure isn't
> performance!

>

> 73 Tom
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
> --
> No virus found in this incoming message.
> Checked by AVG Free Edition.
> Version: 7.5.446 / Virus Database: 268.18.13/726 - Release Date: 3/18/2007
> 3:34 PM
>
>

Message-ID: <45FEAF8D.7040304@pacbell.net>
Date: Mon, 19 Mar 2007 10:43:09 -0500
From: Dan Arney <hankarn@pacbell.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
CC: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: PL-259 tip
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Sandy, I use 3M Type 70 which is the same type of self vulcanizing tape.
Not cheap \$25.00 a roll and -40 to 356F Versus Type 23 at \$11.00 a roll
and -40 o 194F.
Hank
KN6DI

Message-Id: <7.0.1.0.2.20070319104308.024c50c8@muohio.edu>
Date: Mon, 19 Mar 2007 11:02:54 -0600
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: "James C. Garland" <4cx250b@muohio.edu>
Subject: More PL-259 stuff
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Hope you'll forgive me for wading in with some more on this (lengthy) thread:

I'm in the camp with Tom and Dave about preferring PL-259 over "N"
connectors. For about a decade, I switched all my high power stuff
over to "N" connectors, in part because Collins used them on their
ham amplifiers, and partly because I could pick up nice mil-spec

coaxial relays at hamfests (Transco motorized switches, "Y" relays, and the like) and these generally had "N" connectors. In hindsight, the Collins rationale was particularly dumb: after all, Collins also pioneered the use of RCA phono connectors -- probably the world's worst connector -- for RF outputs.

I've now abandoned that commitment. For outdoor use, I had frequent problems with intermittent contact between the center pins of N-connectors, especially in cold weather. This would often show up as a loss of receive sensitivity, but the contact would be temporarily restored when I transmitted. Also, I would occasionally arc over the connectors on motorized rotary switches. This was sometimes my fault, as when I had the wrong antenna connected, or was trying to use an antenna tuner to match a coax fed antenna with a high SWR. (Parenthetically, I'm a volunteer on a local wireless internet group, and we're constantly having problems with intermittent contact on the N-connectors on jumper cables that connect dish antennas to mast-mounted 2.4GHz transceivers.)

I've NEVER flashed over a UHF connector, although I've botched the installation on a quite a few and had to cut them off and start over. I always use BNC connectors with RG58 or RG8X cable for power levels below a couple of hundred watts and have never had any trouble. Actually, I'd prefer to use TNC connectors (same as BNC, but with screw on instead of bayonette shells), but they're hard to find.

Re weatherproofing: I've used Scotch 88 tape for years and it works great, even for twenty years or more, and even in nasty midwestern weather. Finally, I know many people stuff silicone grease into connectors with good results. But I don't understand why that doesn't mess up the contact between mating metal pieces.

73,

Jim W8ZR

James C. Garland
102 Spur Ranch Road
Santa Fe, NM 87540
www.w8zr.net

Message-ID: <051801c76a54\$1c98c6c0\$3201a8c0@w8ut>
From: "Al Parker" <anchor@ec.rr.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Cc: "Lynn, K5LYN" <k5lyn@earthlink.net>, <johnmb@nc.rr.com>

Subject: Re: More "N" stuff
Date: Mon, 19 Mar 2007 13:26:28 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi folks,

Lets change the subject a hair.

Jim's comment may explain the problem I've been seeing here with my tri-band beam. I hadn't correlated it to outside temperature, but the restoration of receive sensitivity after transmitting has been happening here. I dug spider nests out of traps in the driven element over a yr ago and the trouble disappeared for a while, but maybe it's the connector up there that's doing it. I know there's at least 1 "N" type up there on one side of the ferrite donuts on a section of coax, plus more N's between there and the shack. I'll ck'em all. If I shotgun DeOxit them it'll go quickly, but I probably won't know which one's the culprit.

Unfortunately I have to borrow a 25+ft ladder to get to things at the beam. My tower is a tubular crankup, nice, but unclimbable. The beam is at abt 25-28ft when down.

Thanks for the tip. It's been a long thread, but some good things have come out of it.

73,

Al, W8UT,

New Bern, NC

www.boatanchors.org

www.hammarlund.info

----- Original Message -----

From: "James C. Garland" <4cx250b@muohio.edu>

I've now abandoned that commitment. For outdoor use, I had frequent problems with intermittent contact between the center pins of N-connectors, especially in cold weather. This would often show up as a loss of receive sensitivity, but the contact would be temporarily restored when I transmitted.

From: wb3fau@att.net

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Cc: "Lynn, K5LYN" <k5lyn@earthlink.net>, <johnmb@nc.rr.com>

Subject: Re: More "N" stuff

Date: Mon, 19 Mar 2007 18:18:37 +0000

Message-Id:

<031920071818.23131.45FED3FC000B804D000005A5B21603762239A0E00CC0D99@att.net>

Perhaps you are experiencing oxidation due to dissimilar metals coming in

contact? You might try silver plated connectors. Russ.

Message-ID: <005601c76a57\$3be04140\$8ae47443@KB6NAX>
From: "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: N females v/s UHF females (SO-239's)
Date: Mon, 19 Mar 2007 11:09:24 -0700
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Yes, I'm confining my comments to the females of the two species. That's where the reliability problems reside (with apologies to the feminists on the List). In the UHF female the receiving (oh, this is exciting!) contact is confined within the molded housing making it less likely to be spread apart by a misaligned male contact. The N female contact is unsupported and unlike the near same size contact in the BNC/TNC configuration is not confined within a surrounding housing. The N female contact is much more susceptible to spreading and breakage. With damaged contacts contact resistance becomes a problem. For example, if contact resistance rises to 100 milliohms 0.9 watts of power will be dissipated with a 3 ampere current. While there is enough metal to keep things cool enough the heat is generated at contacting micro-points where actual temperature rise can sufficiently enervate the corrosion process to increase contact resistance. In systems that handle moderate power levels connector reliability becomes a problem. In high power systems complete connector failure is only a matter of time. With proper care both N and UHF connectors will give reliable service in the HF and VHF bands at amateur power levels. But odds are N's will prove to be more troublesome.

Arden Allen
KB6NAX

Message-ID: <005701c76a57\$3c89c7b0\$8ae47443@KB6NAX>
From: "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: PL-259 tip
Date: Mon, 19 Mar 2007 11:14:29 -0700
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> You need to talk to Mr Amphenol, Arden.

W'ere old buddies. I look for Amphenols in the junque boxes at the fleas.
Better a corroded Amphenol than a shiny new thermoplastic containing hunk of
pot metal from afar.

Arden Allen
KB6NAX

Message-ID: <005801c76a57\$3d2bd410\$8ae47443@KB6NAX>
From: "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: PL-259 tip
Date: Mon, 19 Mar 2007 11:24:41 -0700
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

>Use only
> the white, TF [teflon] connectors.

Don't get fooled by the white thermoplastic el cheapos!

> 3. Fill the male connector with silicon grease I never saw
moisture condense within a connector. Far
> better than black plastic tape to exclude moisture.

I did both on an antenna with a UHF at its base. Ten years later when I
took it down the connectors looked like the day I installed the antenna.

BUT.....use only electrical grade silicone grease to avoid possible
corrosion problems. Some silicone greases are contaminated with ions that
will turn things green. A potential problem?

Arden Allen
KB6NAX

Message-ID: <006f01c76a5a\$d501e2e0\$8ae47443@KB6NAX>
From: "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: More PL-259 stuff
Date: Mon, 19 Mar 2007 12:12:06 -0700
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

>Finally, I know many people stuff silicone grease into connectors
> with good results. But I don't understand why that doesn't mess up
> the contact between mating metal pieces.

A proper lubricant situated with electrical contacts is actually better than air for maintaining low contact resistance. Lubricants are composed of polymers, i.e., large ball like molecules that roll around making things slippery. Instead of getting between electrical contacting surfaces they squeeze out because they are both slippery and shape adaptable. With millions of the things surrounding contacts air and other contaminants are prevented from reaching the contacts. Harmful contamination that becomes entrapped in the lubricant is embalmed preventing it from doing its nasty work. As long as the lubricant does not decompose and lose its lubricious qualities the connector is protected. Silicone grease has a very long life and withstands extremes of temperature without melting, hardening and eventually decomposing like ordinary petroleum based lubricants do.

Arden Allen
KB6NAX

Date: Mon, 19 Mar 2007 15:54:50 -0400 (EDT)
From: John Poulton <jp@cs.unc.edu>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: WTB: pair of 75TH's & pair of ZB-120's
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.64.0703191538130.11954@swan.cs.unc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Folks,

I'm looking for a pair of 75TH's to keep as spares for a Collins 30K-1 transmitter.

I'm also looking for a pair of fairly exotic tubes, the Amperex ZB-120 ("zero-bias"). These tubes were also known as Collins C120's, and perhaps as 3C21, CE0220, or just "120". They look a bit like 211's that went through the wash and shrank a bit, 4-pin base with alignment pin, about 7" tall. These are needed for the (extensive!) restoration of a 30J-18.

Anyone have either of these tube types they'd like to sell...?
Would be happy to negotiate for 1, 2, or more of each.

I'd also be very interested in corresponding with other 30J owners out there...

73, John K4OZY

--

Message-ID: <032e01c76a64\$e108e980\$640fa8c0@radiatoroom>
From: "Tom Rauch" <w8ji@contesting.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: 37 tube for Philco
Date: Mon, 19 Mar 2007 16:26:12 -0400
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 format=flowed;
 charset="iso-8859-1";
 reply-type=original
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I'm working on an old Philco radio and need two 37 tubes.

If anyone has a couple of spares please e-mail me.

73 Tom

Message-ID: <038401c76a79\$33ae8190\$640fa8c0@radiatoroom>
From: "Tom Rauch" <w8ji@contesting.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: More "N" stuff
Date: Mon, 19 Mar 2007 18:51:46 -0400
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 format=flowed;
 charset="iso-8859-1";
 reply-type=original
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> Jim's comment may explain the problem I've been seeing
> here with my
> tri-band beam. I hadn't correlated it to outside
> temperature, but the
> restoration of receive sensitivity after transmitting has
> been happening
> here. I dug spider nests out of traps in the driven
> element over a yr ago
> and the trouble disappeared for a while, but maybe it's
> the connector up
> there that's doing it. I know there's at least 1 "N" type
> up there on one
> side of the ferrite donuts on a section of coax, plus more
> N's between there

> and the shack. I'll ck'em all. If I shotgun DeOxit them
> it'll go quickly,
> but I probably won't know which one's the culprit.

Al,

I'd try to be sure it is a connector.

By the way... N's have two flavors, 75 ohm and 50 ohm. They are one of the few connectors that have different size center pins in otherwise identical connectors!

If someone mixes the two problems exactly like you describe occur. Another source of problem is the center pin pulling back. That's pretty common also.

Unless the system really requires an N connector I avoid them.

73 Tom

Message-ID: <21309126.1174344855107.JavaMail.root@elwamui-rubis.atl.sa.earthlink.net>

Date: Mon, 19 Mar 2007 18:54:15 -0400 (EDT)

From: spr@earthlink.net

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Subject: Re: More PL-259 stuff

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Folks,

For those who wish to use silicone grease for water prevention-an idea I heartily endorse-I recommend GE part number G-623 Insulgrease. I have used it to protect fine threaded bolts on the bottoms of cars in Boston salty winters and it just had nothing to say to water; the fastener came off five year later as if it had been put on the day before.

The PL-259 splice in the lead from my receiving antenna is done up with this grease inside and sealed on the outside (I hope) with duct-tape. It's lying amongst the grass and other weeds in my back yard and all seems to be well a year or so in.

Peace,

scott

Date: Mon, 19 Mar 2007 19:31:36 -0500 (CDT)
From: Bob Roehrig <broehrig@aurora.edu>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: those damn coax connectors
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.61.0703191925550.13377@hermes.aurora.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII; format=flowed

You haven't had connector problems until you have tried to get/keep a VHF repeater on the air.

We recently moved our repeater from a city owned water tower to a private tower a half mile away. We have a brand new repeater, a brand new antenna, and new inch & 5/8 coax. Less than 6 months after the install, the system is so noisy it could not be used. Fortunately, there is a lesser quality, but spare antenna on the same tower we can temporarily use til the climbers can go check into the problem.

Any bad connection really manifests itself when you are trying to simultaneously transmit and receive on the same antenna! Total receiver desense!

Bob Roehrig
Aurora University Telecom dept.
broehrig@aurora.edu
K9EUI W9ZGP WD2XSH/19
630-844-4898 fax 630-844-4222
"Nostalgia is a thing of the past"

Message-ID: <001801c76a8d\$3d7e2a40\$e9e1a243@HAL1000>
From: "B. Smith" <smithab11@comcast.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Those coax connectors
Date: Mon, 19 Mar 2007 21:14:00 -0400
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The first thing I do before installation of a commercial VHF or UHF antenna is remove the N connectors and "properly" install PL-259's. The climbers will now have less problems with installing the hardline and pig tails. Overall you will have less chance of a miss-aligned N connector. Been there, done that.

breck k4che

----- Original Message -----

From: "Bob Roehrig" <broehrig@aurora.edu>

|
| You haven't had connector problems until you have tried to get/keep a VHF
| repeater on the air.
|

From: Buzz <muttman@charter.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Those coax connectors
Date: Mon, 19 Mar 2007 22:10:07 -0800
Message-ID: <rotuv2po9k3e97o90ai516kug36qj36t7d@4ax.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Years ago when they were installing the first CCTV system in the area I =
sat down
in the grass while the two installers were having lunch. After talking =
techie
stuff we got around to corrosion in exposed rf connectors. One of the =
guys went
to the back of his truck and came back with a hand full of shrink tubing =
about
10" long, that was coated on the inside and had a wax paper sleeve in it.=
He
told me to slip the tubing over the cable, make my connection then slip =
the
sleeving over the connection and remove the wax paper. Start heat =
shrinking in
the center then work towards the ends. When I did as he told me a waxy =
goo came
out at each end which I was able to wipe away. I never had a connection =
fail
after that.
So ya might wanna buddy up to a cable crew, or check the web for =
connection
coverings.

Buzz

On Mon, 19 Mar 2007 21:14:00 -0400, you wrote:

>The first thing I do before installation of a commercial VHF or UHF =
antenna=20
>is remove the N connectors and "properly" install PL-259's. The climbers=
=20
>will now have less problems with installing the hardline and pig =
tails.=20
>Overall you will have less chance of a miss-aligned N connector. Been=20
>there, done that.
>
>breck k4che
>
>----- Original Message -----=20
>From: "Bob Roehrig" <broehrig@aurora.edu>
>
>|
>| You haven't had connector problems until you have tried to get/keep a =
VHF
>| repeater on the air.
>|

Message-ID: <1104.71.59.3.153.1174368223.squirrel@fracas.netboobie.org>
Date: Tue, 20 Mar 2007 01:23:43 -0400 (EDT)
Subject: RF Condoms / was: PL-259 tip
From: "Marty Reynolds' debris field" <polepeeg@aa4rm.ba-watch.org>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Cc: "Old Tube Radios" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

since this got borderline freudian, I just had to

BUT ON 5KV Hi-Pot.

1kw in 50R is ~4.5A. Let's say $Z = 50r + j1000x$. Possible, but wud be
~20:1 swr. Shiver me timbers, there'd be ur 5kv!

Message-ID: <04c601c76ae2\$920fca50\$640fa8c0@radiatoroom>
From: "Tom Rauch" <w8ji@contesting.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Cc: "Old Tube radios" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Those coax connectors

Date: Tue, 20 Mar 2007 07:26:06 -0400
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 format=flowed;
 charset="iso-8859-1";
 reply-type=original
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

So ya might wanna buddy up to a cable crew, or check the web
for connection
coverings.>>

You can bring flowers to the cable guy, or order the tubing
from McMaster Carr.

73 Tom

Message-ID: <25872956.1174412634607.JavaMail.root@mswamui-
chipeau.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Date: Tue, 20 Mar 2007 09:43:54 -0800 (GMT-08:00)
From: Richard Dillman <ddillman@igc.org>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Bending Antennas
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have need to bend a stainless steel whip antenna about 45 degrees so it will be
vertical in a mobile installation.

I've seen some that have been bent and those have a discolored area at the
bend that seems to indicate heating.

Does anyone have direct experience in doing this? Is heat really required?

Thanks,

RD

=====
Richard Dillman, W6AWO
Maritime Radio Historical Society
<http://www.radiomarine.org>
Collector of Harleys, Willys and
Radios over 100lbs.
=====

End of BOATANCHORS Digest 4031
